NEWARK/BELLEVILLE/IRVINGTON

WEST HUDSON/THE ORANGES/MAPLEWOOD/NUTLEY

united community fund of essex and west hudson

formerly United Appeals of Greater Newark and United Fund-Red Cross of the Oranges and Maplewood.

memorandum

to: Doug Eldridge

date: 10/11/67

from: Ed Kirk

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45 BRANFORD PLACE, NEWARK, N.J. 07102/TEL. 623-6030

YOUR GIFT HELPS SO MANY-SO MUCH /

Suggested letter to businessmen.....UCF

Dear Mr. _____:

I think you will be interested in knowing just how well our volunteer agencies accepted their responsibilities during the Newark riots. Despite almost insurmountable difficulties, they met the challenge, often right in the heart of the tragic areas. Staff members and volunteers risked physical harm to do what was necessary: to provide immediate help, care, and comfort to those in dire need.

Many of our agencies had to draw on dwindling financial reserves and will face severe difficulties later this year. Their one hope is that the 1968 UCF campaign can go well over the top and make it possible for some of the hardest-pressed agencies to receive adequate funds. Last year, because the goal was not met, all agency budgets were reduced by an average of 3%. Unless we can surpass the 1968 goal of $3,875,000., we may have to ask for a similar cut again. This would be a tragic mistake. That is why we are asking you to make an extra effort and personally talk with your Board of Directors and key employees to find ways to increase Fair Share Giving, by Firms, Executives, and Employees.

We believe that if Newark is to rebuild and stand proud again, it will require firm but sympathetic leadership from all groups, especially business and professional people who have such major investments here. One of the best ways by which we can prove that leadership, and help others to help themselves, is by increasing our pledges to the UCF.

But to achieve this we in the United Fund must provide accurate answers to questions about service needs and program requests by our agencies. Will you

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take a few minutes more to read the following statements which reflect those areas of expanded need.

--------"Our emergency service began on July 14 at 10:00 a.m. and continued until July 17 at 7:00 p.m. During this time 2,640 sandwiches, 1,320 hot drinks, 1,500 pieces of fruit, 120 packs of cigarettes, and an untold amount of cookies were distributed.....On Monday I went to the Hayes Project and visited the Spellman family. The mother was killed during the riot. The aunt requested clothes for the teenage children (4) in order to attend their mother's funeral. They could not contact Essex County Welfare Board worker, and requested food as well. We gave them a Food Order for $25.00, and purchased approximately a hundred dollars worth of clothing for the children. .....Our summer camp program has included children from the Central Ward. There isn't a street or a project in the riot area that does not contain families well-known to this office, amongst whom are many fine young people who are struggling to educate themselves in order to help their families. We have provided food, clothing, and furniture, for some of them were sleeping on the floor. We have also provided layettes for babies discharged from the hospital wearing only a diaper and receiving blanket. This emphasizes the need for better planning the future with regard to teenage mothers prematurely discharged from City Hospital. Considering the high mortality rate, perhaps we should be concerned with the fact that these young mothers with their babies are discharged within two days of delivery. We make an urgent request that our staff be increased so that we could do casework with families in these areas on a more realistic basis. The rewards (for this agency as well as others) would be tremendous with the expenditure of a little effort and concern for the problems of these families. They will readily recognize and appreciate interest instead of indifference.....THE SALVATION ARMY".

--------"Immediate action is being taken by the Boy Scout Council in order to bring about a renewed quality of Scout program to the 33% of our Scout Council living in Newark affected by our recent tragedy. We have 2,413 boys and 719 adult leaders living in the riot area. None were involved in any way in the riot. We immediately expanded our Day Camp Program and are recruiting 50 extra scouts each week from the riot area. Our extra bus transportation will cost well above $1,000 and our expanded camping population will run into a large deficit.....ROBERT TRAY COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA".

"BEHRAM BETH ISRAEL HOSPITAL---------treated at least 175 patients in our Emergency Service who were injured during the riot. We admitted nine of these patients who had gunshot wounds or more serious injuries. We did invoke a partial disaster program . While service to patients might have been slowed down by absenteeism, other employees worked extra and voluntary shifts".

---------"While no physical damage was inflicted to our agency there was a sense of fear and uneasefulness.....Our staff made 'home calls' and moved about the community calming fears and advising the availability of our agency in case of an actual extension of the riot.....We would like to establish a parlor-office in an empty store front in the middle of the neighborhood so that we could be as close as possible to the people . In this way we could give more advice and counsel and could become a 'neighbor' in its true sense. While much of our work is done by volunteers we do need more staff and general overhead expenses. We also must consider a more multi-functional building than was originally designed by the architect.....BALLEY SETTLEMENT HOUSE".

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---------"An emergency staff meeting was held during the riot to discuss the situation and the priorities of service for people in the area. The nurses were advised not to take any chances 'to use their judgment in entering the riot area'.....There were a number of seriously ill patients living in the area and visits were made to these patients in spite of a plea by authorities that it might be dangerous. Cars were parked several blocks outside the area and our nurses proceeded on foot about their business. The Newark riots will make it more difficult to recruit staff nurse replacements and we must begin to offer competitive salaries if we are to maintain our program.....COMMUNITY NURSING SERVICE OF NEWK AND WEST ORANGE".

---------"Our program is offered to all economic levels of the community. Greater use must be made of our services especially in the area of upgrading family life, housekeeping standards, educating unexperienced out-of-wedlock mothers, etc. We must have more money to pay for this service. We would like to bring in new approaches in our efforts to serve the poor in this community but we cannot do this without more funds.....CHR.-HIL SERVICE, INC.".

---------When Governor Hughes called on Red Cross to assist in the feeding operation during the riot we stepped in and gave whatever service we could possibly offer. Our Food and Nutrition Service is greatly needed because of the very real lack of knowledge in the riot area concerning food and home budget planning.....We need to expand our training program to provide a casework staff of all agencies plus our many volunteers the continuing knowledge needed to give service to the victims of disaster.....Our Disaster Director did a tremendous job working as resource and liaison with the various State and Federal departments. ESSEX CHAPTER-AMERICAN RED CROSS".

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---------"We are giving priority service to victims of the riot and are now in the process of forming a panel of business consultants to assist small businessmen affected by the disturbance".....JEWISH VOCATIONAL SERVICE.

---------"We are most concerned for our needs of additional and permanent quarters. We would like to start a residence for former mental patients. Getting adequate and efficient staff is foremost in our planning. The rioting affected the emotional well being of our clientele and we have had a series of problems in our efforts toward psychiatric rehabilitation..... ...PROSPECT HOUSE".

---------"Our expanded Day Care Program will take effect in September and is geared to meet the needs of the 'poor family'. We are cooperating with the Essex County Welfare Board and expect to accept children from the Concentrated Employment Project. We are moving toward the development of a Senior Service Center. We hope to provide additional facilities for a group of senior citizens not presently reached. Obviously we need more staff to carry out at least some of our plans for the future.....NEWARK DAY CENTER".

---------"Our major need is transportation to our facilities, such as, the pre-school classes, day care center, and the activity center. If we had more money to provide transportation we could extend service to families from the Newark area. The families unable to provide transportation often are the families that need the service most.....We need to develop a facility for Negro children who are both emotionally disturbed as well as retarded. This leaves a serious gap in services. If we can get increased financial assistance from the United Fund we can undertake such a project. As you know, a family funed

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with the problem of an emotionally disturbed child is often pushed to the breaking point. In working with the Board of Education and the Recreational Department of Newark we hope to develop an afternoon recreation program for the retarded. You should know that families from Newark represent 50% to 60% of those who utilize our various facilities.....ESSEX UNIT, NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.".

---------"Our agency made a study last year that recommended the expansion of our service in Newark concerning problems of drug abuse and venereal diseases. .....Newark is #1 in the country in terms of VD incidents. We are doing our dandiest to get the money this year to provide this additional service to your City. Won't you help.....AMERICAN SOCIAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION".

---------"We have staff problems. Getting relief nurses into the riot area is a problem. We are under-staffed at the moment but at least part of our recruitment problem could be relieved if we were able to pay higher salaries and to give more benefits. With continuing cuts in our UCF appropriation and going into the red every year, it becomes more and more difficult to attract well trained personnel and to do the needed job..... WILLIAM H. HARD MEMORIAL HOME FOR [illegible] MOTHERS".

---------"Day Care Service is one of the most urgently needed services in our community. There is usually between 6 months to a year waiting period for families applying. People cannot take advantage of our work programs or training experiences unless their children are cared for. Our agency has been willing and able to increase the number of children served in our building but we are facing a financial crisis because we do not have enough money to operate,

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plus the fact we still have an outstanding debt on our building. We have a high turnover of teaching staff because we cannot compete with salaries paid in the public schools. Unless we can receive an increased allocation from the United Fund, we will probably have to cut the number of children we are presently serving because we will not be able to afford the number of teachers we presently employ due to rising costs and a plateau income.....
....COMMUNITY DAY NURSERY".

---------"Our agency has been working around the clock during and after the riot. We need additional staff particularly. There are little or no Nursing Home facilities for Negroes and a tremendous hardship occures because the aged Negro has no where to go. Chronically ill Negroes in most cases are condemned to live out their lives in custodial care mental hospitals. .....We need additional community organization staff to move aggressively in the direction of procurement of adequate nursing and/or old age homes for Negroes in Essex County.....Our Housing Department needs a professional staff. Housing in Newark, particularly among Negroes is intolerable and is a prime reason for riots. Our staff must begin Tenant-Landlord conferences, apartment listing services, and a continuing preparation of neighborhoods for integration. We need to conduct aggressive youth education including expanded counseling services for out-of-school youth. This cannot be done without additional staff.....Our Health and Welfare Department is concerned about adolescent unwed mothers and the lack of medical services to non-whites, and we are in extreme need of additional staff to work in our health and welfare area.....Finally, our continuing role in economic development and employment must be expanded. We are concerned about the fate of the 3,000 plus Negroes who register with us each year but who we have not been able to place. We must develop new approaches to provide employment opportunities for these Negroes

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who constitute a substantial part of the hard core unemployed in our area. It is not good enough to praise ourselves for the good already done in the Job Development and Skill Bank activities, we must do more training. We must receive corporate support and we must receive more aid from the UCF.. .....URBAN LEAGUE OF ESSEX COUNTY".

---------"When we wrote you last May, USO had 10 clubs in operation in Viet Nam. Since that letter of 4 months ago, we have opened 6 additional clubs with 2 more be readied in the immediate future. These operations require a staff of 55 Americans and the employ of 615 local South Viet Namese, for behind-the-counter and maintenance work. When you consider that during the month of June our door total was 527,000 you begin to appreciate the magnitude of the staff work being required to serve them properly.....We have been requested to open 7 USO Clubs in Thailand and just last week were requested by the Department of Defense to increase our activities for our American wounded from Viet Nam who have been brought back to Japan, Guam, the Philippines, Okinawa and Taiwan. We estimate the increased cost of these programs to be $17,4000. We also face additional expenditures in the United States of about $200,000..... The USO Project for 1968 will increase by 20%. As you know, all of our money comes from the United Funds across the country.....Last year the UCF allocated $30,000 to the USO. This is one-third of your Fair Share quota. We sincerely hope that your campaign will be completely successful and that we will receive full support for the services we are called upon to give all over the world". .....UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.".

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The United Community Fund representing the agencies above, as well as the total community, shares with you a tremendous responsibility. You should know that the UCF is not just a fund-raising organization. It is responsible for the health and welfare planning of our community agencies and also provides you with the knowledge that the millions of dollars raised in the campaigns are budgeted carefully to avoid high costs, duplication and poor administration. Our total emphasis is on progress and service for people who need help to help themselves toward a better life.

The UCF itself has always been active in bringing to our City experimental programs that seek to solve root causes of problem areas of disease, despair and despendency. The UCF has developed whole fields of manpower training and development programs including COPE and SEED which have successfully trained and found gainful employment for hundreds and hundreds of youth. The UCF helped organize and support the BIOC. It also developed the very successful Collegefields Rehabilitation Program for youth scholastically failing and in trouble with the law. The UCF has authored a variety of other new programs in the fields of drug addiction, day care, pre-school, teenage unmarried mothers, etc. It has lent its expert staff to local government and private agencies in helping them develop many of their programs.

The UCF operates on the simple premise that no part of the community can move forward unless the whole community moves along with it. The UCF has, for decades, represented all sectors of the community and their welfare interests, particularly the increasing concern of the better able for those less fortunate. Implicit in this concern is the assumption that participation, both personal and financial, must be accomplished by all.

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---------"The United Community Fund Budget Committee has been remarkably short-sighted in denying Fuld House additional funds for the purpose of hiring adequate staff to work in this community with hundreds of wayward youth and disorganized families. We are not about to alter conditions where there is less massive aid and detailed attention given to a community that is perhaps the most depressed in the whole of Newark. I am talking about an additional $15,000 to maintain and expand our services to the Central Ward in Newark. We would like to develop a crash program which will be helpful in preventing rioting. We are fully aware of the financial problems of the United Fund Drive yet I maintain that areas such as ours should receive some priority consideration. I also feel that we should sit down and discuss our total situation here. We are still very much in a "tinderbox" stage and a little flame fanning from the wrong people could set disaster in motion again.....R. EDWARD LEE, EXECUTIVE, FULD NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE".

---------"Probably the major social problem of Newark is family disorganization. We see that the children growing up today are contributing to the weight of unemployment, mental illness, alcoholism, drug addiction and crime unless the cycle of defeat, defiance and despair is checked. In my opinion this summer's crisis makes more dramatic the need for greater services and attention to Newark's problem families. Our agency is expanding services for pre-school youngsters as well as casework, group work and education adapted to individual family members...CHILD SERVICE ASSOCIATION".

---------"Our agency is in a position of leadership in the Ironbound section of Newark because our membership has been integrated since 1960. We have gained the respect and confidence of all people living in our area. However, because of budget problems we have not been able to implement or expand our summer program to meet the demand. We need additional funds for transportation and summer recreational staff. We would like to organize a Golden Age Program for year-round activities for older people and we need additional staff for this operation. Our present and future needs are very real and I am asking for special financial consideration in order for us to continue

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our present program as well as to implement the necessary expansion activities for the coming year.....RICHMOND BOYS' CLUB".

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